

ORALLY ADMINISTRATIVE POLYHYDROXYCARBOXYLIC ACID

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Abstract of JP11092552

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a polyhydroxycarboxylic acid having an intestine conditioning action and a specified weight-average molecular weight and being capable of lowering the pH in the intestinal tract. **SOLUTION:** There is provided a polyhydroxycarboxylic acid having a weight-average molecular weight of 1,000-50,000 and obtained by polymerizing an α -hydroxycarboxylic acid selected among L-lactic acid, D-lactic acid, a mixture thereof, glycolic acid, etc., and having an intestine conditioning action. This is mixed with an extender, a coagulant, a gelling agent, a texturing agent, etc., to form a medicine for intestine diseases in the form of tablets, capsules, a powder, granules, a liquid, a jelly, a suppository or the like. The daily dosage is about 0.1 mg to 1 g/kg body weight in the case where it is used in the form a medicine for intestinal diseases or a food additive. It is desirable that such a medicine or additive is taken periodically every day or every several days. The polyhydroxycarboxylic acid is produced under conditions in which the kind of the solvent used, the kind of the catalyst used, the amount of the catalyst, the reaction temperature, and the reaction time are suitably selected. After the synthesis, it is purified by an operation such as recrystallization, reprecipitation, extraction or deaeration.

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